

CENTRIFUGE ROTOR SAFETY

To prevent premature failure, rotors should be checked for cracks, corrosion, or any other damages. The proper manufacturer representative should inspect higher speed rotors on a regular basis (i.e. ultracentrifuge rotors should be inspected annually, and highspeed rotors should be inspected every 3 years) since some rotor damage is not visible to the naked eye. For this reason, the manufacturer's representative will perform a fiberoptic boroscopy examination to determine if microscopic stress fractures, corrosion and pitting are present. It is important to maintain and clean the rotors before and after each use. Rotors that are not properly maintained and cleaned can become significant hazards to the user and the environment. Rotor failure can result in the release of flying objects, hazardous chemicals, and biohazardous aerosols.

To facilitate rotor inspection a blanket request for this service has been set up with the two primary ultracentrifuge manufacturers, Beckman-Coulter and Kendro-Sorvall. To utilize this service please follow the steps listed below.

1. Contact the vendor (Kendro-Sorvall or Beckman-Coulter)
2. Identify yourself as an NCI-Frederick employee (government or contractor) and that you would like to request rotor inspection under the blanket order #
 - a. B02-036NB for Kendro-Sorvall
 - b. B02-036NA for Beckman-Coulter
3. The requestor should then issue a purchase order/release number to the vendor.
4. Provide information to the vendor
 - a. Number of rotors to be inspected
 - b. Rotor model numbers
 - c. Location of rotors
 - d. Contact person and contact information (location, telephone # and fax)
5. The current cost of the inspection is \$70 per rotor.
6. Information is then entered into Smartstream by the authorized User Buyer.



1998 Centrifuge
accident at Cornell